

STORE CREDIT CARD RATES: HOLIDAY CONSUMERS BEWARE

STORE	INTEREST RATE	TEASER DEAL?	GRACE PERIOD
Levitz Furniture	24.00% - 26.00% *		25 days
Seaman's Furniture	24.00% - 26.00% *	No int. for 6-12 mths**	0 days
Radio Shack	23.85% - 27.85%	No int. for 2-12 mths**	90 days
Victoria's Secret	22.80%		25 days
Abercrombie & Fitch	22.80%		25 days
Lane Bryant	22.80%		25 days
Lerner New York	22.80%		7 days
Express	22.80%	25 days	
Ann Taylor	22.80%		25 days
PC Richard	21.98%	No int. for 6 mths**	90 days
Staples	21.96% - 24.00% *		30 days
Filene's Basement	21.90%		0 days
Brooks Brothers	21.60% - 25.60% *		26 days
Bloomingdales	21.60% - 24.90% *		25 days
Macy's	21.60% - 24.90% *		5 days
Lord & Taylor	21.60%		25 days
Saks 5th Avenue	21.60%		5 days
Sears	21.00% - 29.00% *		20 days
JC Penny	21.00% - 24.90% *		25 days
Nordstrom	21.00% - 24.00% *		25 days
Barney's New York	21.00%		26 days
Home Depot	21.00%		0 days
J. Crew	20.99%		25 days
AVERAGE	20.65%		25 days
Fortunoff	19.92%		25 days
Bergdorf Goodman	19.80% - 23.99% *	9.9% rate pay plan	30 days
Crate & Barrel	19.80% - 24.91% *		25 days
Neiman Marcus	19.80%		30 days
Best Buy	19.80% - 23.80% *	No int. for 3 mths**	25 days
Pottery Barn	19.00%		25 days
ABC Carpets	18.99%	No int. for 6 mths**	30 days
Comp USA	18.90% - 22.90% *	No int. for 24 mths**	25 days
Banana Republic	16.55%		0 days

OTHER CREDIT RATES STILL LOW

Treasury Bills-- .96% (National Average).
Automobile Loan Rate- 6.10% (National Average).
Personal Loan Rates – 14.02% (National Average).
Bank Credit Cards- 12.98% (National Average)
Some credit card rates as low as 8.95%.
Criminal Usury Rate – 25%.

*Sliding scale based on payment or credit history. Note that over extended payment periods, rates could drop.

**No or special interest period may vary based on the cost of the item purchased or speed of repayment. In most cases, if consumer does not pay entire balance by end of teaser period, consumer is responsible for full interest rate, retroactive to date of purchase.

Sources: Survey of 32 major stores. Other credit rates based on Congressional Research Service reports.